

OJ Watson Park

Tobacco Litter Environmental Scan

RESIST Youth & Tobacco Free Wichita Coalition
June 8, 2017— 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Our Process:

- Tobacco litter was located within a 20-foot perimeter of the NE & SE playgrounds.
- The litter was collected & a flag was placed to mark its location.
- At the close of the scan, all flags were collected & youth members disposed of the litter.



RESIST youth council members

Hidden Dangers in the Park:

- Cigarette butts are the most littered item in the U.S. (1.7-billion pounds/year)
- Cigarette butts contain over 4,000 harmful chemicals & are non-biodegradable. Each one takes 10-15 years to begin breaking down.
- Poisons leached from cigarette butts into the environment can be harmful to children, pets, wildlife, if ingested.



Youth members placing flags (Northeast playground)

The Findings at OJ Watson Park:

- In less than one hour, youth members collected 280+ cigarette butts & other tobacco materials the NE & SE playgrounds.
- Tobacco litter was concentrated next to play equipment & at the playground perimeters.



Flags locating tobacco litter at OJ Watson Park



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